

MINUTES OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

Wednesday, August 22, 2007 2:30 p.m. Room 307 House Office Building, Lansing

Representative Mayes, Chair, called the meeting to order.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Representatives Mayes, Byrum, Angerer, Brown, Kathleen Law, Leland, Walker, Nitz, Ball, Meekhof. (10/11)

MEMBER ABSENT: Representative Sheltrown. (1/11)

Representative Nitz made a motion to adopt the minutes of the meeting of July 18, 2007. No objection being offered, a unanimous ballot was cast to adopt the minutes as presented.

Representative Leland moved to excuse absent member. No objection being offered, a unanimous ballot was cast to excuse absent members.

The Chair laid HB 4905 before the Committee.

HB 4905 (Meekhof) Agriculture; animals; disposal of dead animal bodies; allow use of in methane digesters.

Representative Meekhof explained his bill to the committee. Question and discussion followed. Representative Meekhof introduced Mark E. Schoenborn. Mr. Schoenborn explained the need for using Methane Digesters for disposal of dead farm animal bodies. Questions and discussion followed.

Nancy Nyquist, representing the Michigan Department of Agriculture, testified in support of HB 4905.

The following submitted testimony cards indicating support for HB 4905 but did not wish to speak.

Larry Julian, representing Julian Vail LLC
Tonia Ritter, representing the Michigan Farm Bureau

Representative Nitz made a motion to report HB 4905 with recommendation.

FAVORABLE ROLL CALL:

Yeas: Representatives Mayes, Byrum, Angerer, Brown, Kathleen Law, Leland, Walker, Nitz, Ball and Meekhof. (10/11)

Nays: None. (0/11)

Pass: None (0/11)

A sufficient number of members voting in the affirmative, the motion prevailed.

Tonia Ritter, Legislative Counsel, representing the Michigan Farm Bureau and Brad Deacon, Emergency Management Coordinator, representing the Michigan Department of Agriculture testified on the Drought Conditions in the State of Michigan. Questions and discussion followed.

With no additional business before the Committee, Chair Mayes declared the meeting adjourned, the time being 3:18 p.m.

Representative Jeff Mayes, Chair

David C Mead, Committee Clerk
517-373-2013